

PUBLIC LEDGER.

A. F. CURRAN, Publisher.

MAYSVILLE, - - KENTUCKY

Some persistent people are still on the vegetable wagon.

Cold storage lends a musty flavor alike to eggs and apples.

How seldom we hear them spoken of as "horseless carriages" now.

At least let us hope that as compensation we may have an early spring.

Food prices began to fall even before most of us had got out of the habit of eating.

Now the royal duke of Connaught is to go on a hunting trip to Africa. We lead; they follow.

In 20 years of the electric chair, all of New York's 117 murderers have been foreign born.

For a small and select organization we suggest the Society of Those Who Saw Comet A 1910.

Diamonds are to increase in price. This is a direct increase in the cost of living for chorus girls.

Bursting pipes flooded Wall street the other evening, but then water is nothing new for Wall street.

It will soon be possible to bring on the early and imprudent robin without exciting whoops of derision.

New York has a child wonder who plays the piano in his sleep. The only escape for the neighbors is to move.

Let's move to Denmark. Our Danish minister, Dr. Egan, says there are no trusts, high prices, or stale eggs there.

The new comet has 50,000,000 miles of tail. This is all gas. If you catch a comet you can dispose of your meter.

Traces of sodium have been discovered in that tramp comet. Evidently we must take our comets with a grain of salt.

Also, it is especially aggravating to come across these learned articles on the nutritive nature of the tough cuts of meat.

Speaking of boycotting high-priced necessities of life, the barefoot dancers have not put the shoe trust out of business.

Theatrical managers ave: that 1909 was a miserable dramatic year; and probably some theatergoers will agree with them.

According to a diamond dealer all classes of people are buying diamonds. However, some few are buying beefsteaks instead.

In Denmark every egg that is sold must bear a stamp showing just when it was laid. People have time to watch the nests over there.

There is nothing in the constitution compelling the president to live up to the mind-reading predictions of the Washington correspondents.

Although the ground hog has broken winter's back, the weather bureau will continue to record the symptoms in official and technical language.

Japan and Russia are discovered jointly opposed to the neutralization of the Manchurian railroads. Well, Uncle Sam at least smoked them out.

An Atlantic City, N. J., man has invented a boat that will run on either land or water. There ought to be a good sale for such a craft in the Ohio river basin.

The man in Cincinnati who laughed so hard at a joke that he sprained his jaw now entertains pessimistic views of the effects of the gospel of cheerfulness.

Maybe women are happier in their second marriages because the husbands all the time are trying to live up to the glowing descriptions of their predecessors.

In face of the determined fight against high prices, it is in order for the meat trust to apply for an injunction restraining the people from stopping eating meat.

Russian spies are tracking spies who treacherously spy upon the spies of the revolutionaries, who spy upon official spies, the Russian police. Surely complications enough.

Chicago possesses a highway lady who fits from holdup to holdup in a taxicab. Perhaps it was the taxicab habit that suggested and, indeed, obliged her to extend the plundering to the public at large.

Invention keeps pace with the necessities of the age. An iron cyclone collar is described at length in the current number of a technical journal. Of course the contrivance is designed for use in Kansas and other windy localities. The striking feature about it is that it is equipped with seats, shelves and other conveniences. Evidently it is arranged to provide all the comforts of home for families caught out in a big blow.

City people may have to go out into the country to see the comet.

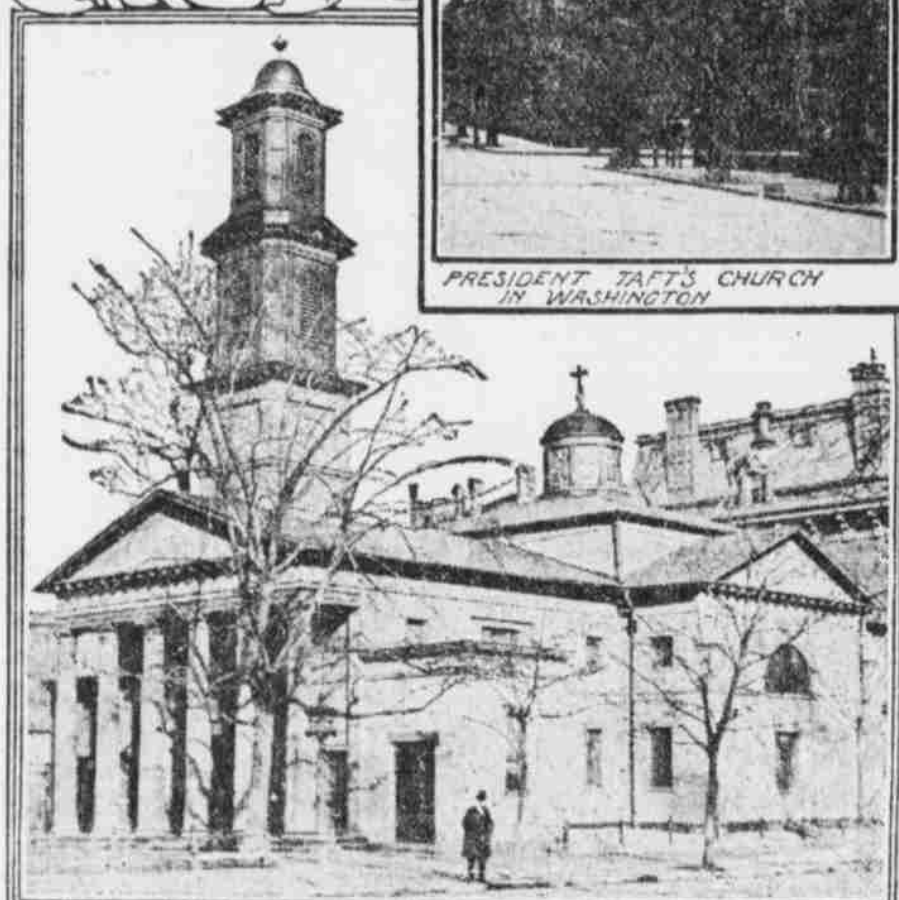
Where the Tafts Attend the Easter Service



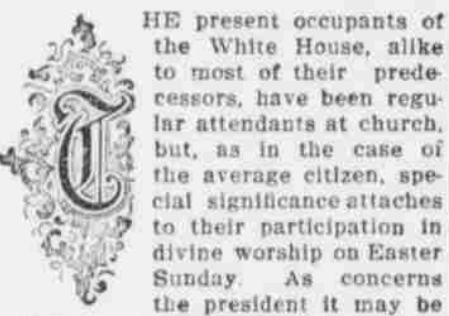
REV. W. G. PIERCE
PRESIDENT
TAFT'S PASTOR



PRESIDENT TAFT'S CHURCH
IN WASHINGTON



HISTORIC OLD ST. JOHN'S CHURCH IN WASHINGTON OF WHICH
MRS. TAFT IS A MEMBER



THE present occupants of the White House, alike to most of their predecessors, have been regular attendants at church, but, as in the case of the average citizen, special significance attaches to their participation in divine worship on Easter Sunday. As concerns the president it may be said that part of this significance is in a religious sense and part is in a spectacular sense. It is not the special music and the flowers which make for the latter so much as the disposition on the part of a large share of the public to seize the opportunity to get a glimpse at close range of the president of the United States.

As has been said the president attends church service almost every Sunday morning in the year, but there is no certainty as to his appearance, nor, on the ordinary Sabbath, does the president invariably attend the church of which he is a member. Indeed not infrequently the chief executive accepts an invitation to worship with some congregation of another denomination, if the occasion be a special one of any kind. On Easter Sunday, however, the president goes to his own church and only the most exceptional circumstances interfere with his attendance at the morning service. Knowing this, throngs gather at the church, whereas a good sized crowd is sure to follow the president all the way from the White House gates to the church.

As was the case during the Roosevelt administration, the president and his wife are adherents of different religious denominations and hold membership in different churches in Washington. President Taft comes of a Unitarian family, his father and mother both being Unitarians and his grandmother having joined the Unitarian movement with the famous Dr. Channing. William H. Taft, like his father before him, was a member of the Unitarian church in Cincinnati. After entering official life in Washington, he took a pew in the only Unitarian place of worship at the national capital—stately All Souls' church, which is located not more than half a mile from the executive mansion.

The new "President's church" is one of the most historic churches in what might be termed "The City of Famous Churches." John C. Calhoun, Daniel Webster, Bullfinch and the late Senator Hoar have been among its

members and the late Edward Everett Hale frequently occupied its pulpit. President Taft will be summoned to worship on Easter morning by the far-reaching tones of a great bell, cast by the famous Paul Revere of revolutionary fame. This bell which has place in a lofty belfry, has sounded on great public occasions since 1822, tolling successively for Lincoln, Garfield and McKinley.

The pastor of All Souls', who preaches President Taft's Easter sermon, is Rev. Ulysses Grant Baker Pierce and he appears in the pulpit in a black gown such as is worn under similar circumstances by many Episcopal clergymen. Rev. Pierce is a native of Providence, R. I., and was born in the closing year of the civil war, which readily accounts for the choice of the name bestowed upon him. He was educated in New England and at Hillside college, Michigan, and also pursued advanced studies at Harvard. The pastor had charges in Iowa, California and Ithaca, N. Y., ere he assumed his present position in 1891, in which year also he was married. Rev. Pierce, like the distinguished member of his congregation, has traveled extensively and lectured considerably upon travel subjects.

Mrs. Taft, like Mrs. Roosevelt, worships at a different church from that attended by her husband and by odd coincidence these two successive first ladies of the land have had the same religious affiliations. The Easter mecca of these two well-known women is old St. John's Episcopal church, located just across the park from the White House and often called the "church of the presidents," from the fact that every President from Madison to Lincoln, and several since that time, have worshipped there. The quaint little edifice has also been dubbed "the court church" from the fact that during every administration many leading foreign diplomats and high officials of the nation have regularly attended its services. A pew in the church is always set aside for the use of the president of the United States and his family and this pew is now used by Mrs. Taft in place of the pew which she formerly rented. Miss Helen Taft is also a member of this church and usually accompanies her mother to the services when in Washington at Easter, but the president's sons are wont, as were the Roosevelt boys, to go to church with their father when at home for the Easter holidays or on other like occasions.

The Cross in Art, History and Legend



AT THIS season when all the world over people of many races and tongues are meditating on the Cross of Christ; when long services are being held in memory of the greatest tragedy on Golgotha, and processions are solemnly marching to the stations of the Cross, bearing banners and crucifixes, and bowing reverently before altars and pictures commemorating the sorrowful walk to Calvary; when in the Holy Land thousands of pilgrims from every nation are treading the very "Via Dolorosa" on which he trod as he left the Holy City forever, carrying his cross to the "Accursed Hill" outside the walls; it may be of interest to consider the history and traditions of this wonderful symbol under which we live and in the name of which so much has been wrought of world-wide good to humanity, and, alas! of great harm through Christian fanaticism.

Perhaps there is no other object on earth about which there has been more controversy, more dissensions and more superstitions than about this one great object for reverence on the one side, and for derision on the other.

Ever since the crucifixion it has left a strong impress on the history of the nations and has been revered in the religion of all the sects bearing the name of Christ. It has been surrounded by traditions and mysticism and endowed with supernatural and miraculous attributes. It has been taken as the emblem of a faith under the banner of which great deeds of heroism have been done, as in olden days when pioneer messengers of the Story of the Cross filled with religious zeal entered bravely into uncivilized and barbarian lands, fearlessly ignoring great dangers.

Heralded by Christian banners the procession of civilization has spread to all parts of the world. Romans carried it to the Britons and Saxons. The worship of the sun as observed by the Incas was brought to an end through the ascendancy of Spanish bearers of the cross.

Being the keynote and the "glory" of the Christian religion this emblem soon became prized in other directions besides those ecclesiastic. With the triumph of Christianity the cross at once was recognized as a universal symbol of highest nobility and honor. It was now considered to add dignity to the crowns and scepters of emperors and princes. It became the proud-est ensign of knightly rank. The greatest warriors were proud to see the cross on the hilts of their swords as well as on the banners under which they fought. It also became a sign of merit for valor and bravery—a reward for deeds of honor, as the Iron Cross of Prussia established by William III. for patriotic bravery in war.

It was worn also as a protection in times of trouble. To denote the consecration of those devoted to the aid of the suffering and needy; the Red Cross was the confederation of societies in different countries for the betterment of conditions of the wounded soldiers in campaigns on land and sea. In Crusader days, beginning with Peter the Hermit, in 1094, starting out to deliver the Holy Land from the dominion of the infidel, the brave warriors were thus named because of the red cross they wore as badges on their right shoulders.

The archbishop's crozier—the ensign of his office—is the staff with a cross head, distinguishing it from the "pastoral" staff of bishops and abbots, which have a shepherd's crook.

Thus has been experienced the saying of Justin Martyr so many years ago—that "the sign of the cross was impressed upon the whole of nature. There is hardly a handicraftsman also but uses the figure of it among the implements of his industry. It forms a part of man himself." Man has been created in this form as has been beautifully illustrated by Emily Collier in the painting depicting the Holy Child's expression of his love—"So wide is my love."

In the middle ages and in Crusader days the cross was the distinctive symbol of the Christian in contradistinction to the Crescent of the Mohammedan.

The custom of marking one's signature by a cross was first adopted by Christians in the year 110 to distinguish them from the pagans, and it stood for a silent oath.

The early Christians immediately used this sign, which was connected with their religion, as a secret message to one another in their first days of persecution. Mingling with the persecutors of their faith, they could thus make themselves known to each other without calling the attention of those around them. In visiting the catacombs in Rome, where they hid from fear of their persecutors, it is intensely interesting to notice that the sign so sacred to them is carved and engraved all around the walls of their prison cells and above the tombs of their brethren.

Book Companionship.
Books are a guide in youth and an entertainment for age. They support us under solitude and keep us from being a burden to ourselves. They help us to forget the crossness of men and things; compose our cares and our passions; and lay our disappointments asleep. When we are weary of the living we may repair to the dead, who have nothing of peevishness, pride or design in their conversation.—Jeremy Collier.

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Graniteville, Vt.—"I was passing through the Change of Life and suffering from nervousness and other annoying symptoms. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound restored my health and strength, and proved worth mountains of gold to me. For the sake of other suffering women I am willing you should publish my letter."—Mrs. CHARLES BARCLAY, R.F.D., Graniteville, Vt.

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